Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical system, comprising:

a plurality of system components carrying out the same or mutually corresponding actions; and

an apparatus for monitoring a proper operation of said plurality of components of the electrical system, said apparatus including:

a plurality of dedicated monitoring devices each assigned to a respective one of said system components to be monitored, each of said dedicated monitoring devices being operable independently of the respective system component to be monitored;

said monitoring devices being connected to receive monitoring data from the respectively associated system component and being configured to compare monitoring data received from the respectively associated system

component and from other system components or from other monitoring devices, for determining whether or not the respectively associated system component is operating properly.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The electrical system according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein said monitoring devices are configured to examine the monitoring data received from the system components and to decide whether the monitoring data meet predefined conditions.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 3, wherein said monitoring devices are configured to check whether the monitoring data received from the system components to be monitored and/or from the monitoring devices associated therewith agree or correspond to one another.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 3, wherein said monitoring devices are configured to check whether the monitoring data received from the system components to be monitored and/or from the

monitoring devices associated therewith are in a predetermined ratio or a predetermined relationship with one another.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 3, wherein said monitoring devices are configured to check whether the monitoring data received from the system components to be monitored and/or from the monitoring devices associated therewith are predetermined data.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 3, wherein, if a given said monitoring device concludes that the monitoring data from one of the system components do not meet the predefined condition, the relevant system component is made to stop operating.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 7, wherein said monitoring device is configured to stop an operation of the relevant system component.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 8, wherein the system components to be monitored are constructed and operated to only process a given task when an enable signal is present.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 9, wherein said monitoring device is configured to generated the enable signal for the respectively associated system component.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 9, wherein the enable signal is formed by a logical combination of control signals generated and output by the monitoring devices associated with a respective system component depending on whether or not the monitoring data output by the system component meet the predefined conditions.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 1, wherein the system components to be monitored are program-controlled units.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 1, wherein the system components to be monitored are a constituent part of various bus units of a bus system.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 13, wherein said monitoring devices are a constituent part of communications controllers of the bus

units, and the communications controllers are configured to transmit data to other bus units via the bus, and to receive data via the bus.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 13, wherein the bus units containing the system components to be monitored are connected to one another via a plurality of buses.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 15, wherein the bus units contain a number of communications controllers corresponding to a number of buses connecting the communications controllers to one another, wherein each communications controller is connected to a different bus.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 16, wherein a monitoring device is provided in each of the communications controllers.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The electrical system according to claim 14, wherein the bus units containing the system components to be monitored are connected to one another via a plurality of buses.